



## 1995 CALLED – THEY WANT THEIR JOKES BACK

BORED WITH QUIPS ABOUT INDIAN COMICS, AZIZ ANSARI HOPES TO STRIKE A DEEPER CHORD WITH AUDIENCES

PAGE 21



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# Class size sets up 'students for failure'

## Plea for help.

Calgary learner writes damning letter to education minister



JEREMY NOLAIS

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Frustration over being packed into a Grade 10 social studies class with more than 40 others has prompted a Calgary teen to write an email to the provincial education minister claiming students are being set up for failure.

Sharad Gadhia, who attends Queen Elizabeth High School, said up until Monday, two weeks after classes began, students in his class had been forced to share desks with the teacher and each other, and sit on stools. He said, even now, a large table has been moved in to accommodate a few kids and instructional time resembles something closer to that seen in a university lecture hall.

Gadhia shared his concerns in an email sent Monday to Minister Jeff Johnson after reading a Metro story last week that indicated the province's top education boss wanted to

## Quoted

"If we're not set up for success, we're not going to achieve our goals."

Grade 10 student Sharad Gadhia

hear about situations where more than 40 students were being squeezed into classrooms.

"Situations like this don't help a student learn, instead they set up our students for failure," Gadhia wrote. "I know for a fact that the number of students skipping classes this year is rising dramatically, and there's no way of denying it."

In an interview Tuesday, Gadhia said he's heard of another class at Queen Elizabeth with 53 students crammed in, adding it appears the core subjects are where the greatest issues are being seen.

"It feels like we're not getting the help we need ... after university, we are going to be the main citizens of Alberta — the workforce of Alberta," said Gadhia, who wants to pursue religious studies after graduating. "If we're not set up for success, we're not going to achieve our goals."

Last week, the Calgary



Sharad Gadhia is seen in front of Calgary's Queen Elizabeth High School on Tuesday. The Grade 10 student says he's in a social studies class with more than 40 others, and it's impacting his studies. Gadhia has written an email to Alberta Education Minister Jeff Johnson claiming students are being set up for failure. GLENN KELLY/FOR METRO

Board of Education conceded some schools were reporting class sizes in the high 30s or low 40s, but added teachers and administrators were working to alleviate issues.

After Metro's story and another in the Calgary Herald, the board posted an online statement that said, "Class sizes are flexible and many change through the month of

September as students, particularly high school students, determine which classes best fit their timetables, their credit needs for graduation and their plans for the next semester and after high school."

But Trina Hurdman, who is challenging to represent Ward 7, where Queen Elizabeth is located, in next month's school trustee elections, said

the board has been "completely irresponsible" by going public with claims it could also hire on additional teachers in the coming weeks to aid the classroom crunch.

"By the time they hire all those people — if they hire those people — the semester's already half done," she said. "So that's not going to help those students."

George Lane, incumbent Ward 7 trustee representative, did not respond to a request for comment Tuesday.

## On the web

Read Gadhia's email at metronews.ca



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# The future is now: Holograms, GPS to ease (some) parking woes

## What, no robot valet?

The city is testing new technology in bid to streamline payments and ensure safety



**JEREMY NOLAIS**

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Calgary Parking Authority officials are putting new hope in some high-tech innovations, even borrowing a tad from Princess Leia herself.

According to general manager Troy McLeod, the organization has already begun testing auto-pay devices that rely on GPS technology and is also evaluating the potential of using holograms to provide a safety warning for pedestrians.

McLeod said the auto-pay devices would be available to all, but may best serve couriers and similar businesses, who are annoyed by constantly having to drop change into a pay terminal or repeatedly acti-

2014

The Calgary Parking Authority will wrap a pilot project using auto-pay GPS systems at September's end and could introduce the technology for common use in early 2014.

vating and deactivating their parking sessions using the authority's phone services.

"Even though (paying) is still simple to do, it's one step removed for people that are in and out of their vehicle all day," he said.

A GPS device installed in the car automatically starts a parking session when the vehicle enters a designated CPA area and stops it as soon as the vehicle leaves. McLeod said the popular Car2Go service already relies on similar technology and pays the authority in advance for anticipated parking charges racked up by its fleet.

"It's seamless for the customer; they don't even think



Let's face it: Parking is a pain. But Troy McLeod, general manager with the Calgary Parking Authority, says some new technology may make it a bit less headache-inducing. The city is testing the use of auto-pay systems that rely on GPS and holograms to improve safety. METRO FILE

they're paying for parking but, in fact, they are," he said.

As well, the authority is studying the use of holograms to project the image of a vehicle into the entrance

space of its parkades ahead of one actually exiting. McLeod said while a warning noise is already activated at city parkades, the hologram would add a visual for passersby.

He added that the images projected are not far off from those featuring Princess Leia pleading for the help of Obi-Wan Kenobi in the first Star Wars movie.

## Debate on overtime for city managers rages on



Ald. Diane Colley-Urquhart speaks to reporters outside city hall Tuesday afternoon. ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

Overtime for city management continued to stir debate among city council Tuesday, with the mayor pledging to ban it if re-elected and Ald. Diane Colley-Urquhart defending her aggressive questioning of city staff the night before.

Mayor Naheed Nenshi said he would like to change an existing administrative policy that entitles even top-level

managers making six-figure salaries to double-time compensation for overtime work done during emergencies, but said Colley-Urquhart's approach was not the right way to go about it.

"To go on a witch hunt now and to demonize people because they followed the policy I think is really counter-productive," the mayor said. "In my mind it amounts to a pub-

lic spanking of people who did incredibly hard work."

Colley-Urquhart, however, defended the line of questioning she directed at city manager Owen Tobert during a testy council discussion Monday night.

"I think those kinds of questions made people feel uncomfortable, but I feel that transparency and openness cuts both ways," she said.

Colley-Urquhart also told reporters Tuesday about a heated confrontation with Tobert's wife following Monday's meeting. Tobert declined comment on the matter.

Council also voted Tuesday to refer Colley-Urquhart's call for an audit of management overtime during the flood to a committee meeting in January 2014. ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO, WITH FILES FROM NEWSTALK 770

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# Housing-first approach saves over \$34K per head: Foundation

## 10-year plan.

Accommodation situation 'has gotten worse': CEO



JEREMY NOLAÏS

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More than \$34,000 is saved in public services each time a Calgarian is moved out of an emergency shelter and into affordable housing, suggests new data.

The Calgary Homeless Foundation offered the information, believed to be the first of its kind, during its annual general meeting Tuesday after following up with 72 clients given a helping hand in the form of affordable accommodation.

The self-reported survey found that while affordable

housing costs more than \$18,000 per person — about double the amount needed to keep someone in a shelter — clients accessed on average less than \$3,000 in public services, down from nearly \$46,000 for those without a permanent place to call home.

"It means housing (clients) first delivers a return on investment," said foundation president and chief executive John Rook. "It's a positive move."

The total cost for a person in a shelter annually was \$55,000 compared to a little more than \$21,000 among those moved into housing.

The foundation also said it found that the roughly 760 people it housed in total last year required EMS less than half as often and visited emergency rooms just one third as often.

There was also a 95 per



John Rook, president and chief executive of the Calgary Homeless Foundation, is seen with a clock showing the time remaining in the city's 10-year plan to end homelessness. JEREMY NOLAÏS/METRO

cent reduction in incarcerations among housed clients and a 45 per cent reduction in overall interactions with

police. Both statistics were music to the ears of Calgary Deputy Police Chief Trevor Daroux.

"It's about dealing with the homeless population, dealing with people, in a manner in which we're pro-

viding the assistance they need as opposed to looking at it from an enforcement perspective," he said.

## Where we're at

### Post-flood housing crunch

- The Calgary Homeless Foundation said the flood has reduced rental vacancy beneath the 1.3 per cent reported last fall, adding it's having an impact on progress towards the city's 10-year-plan to end homelessness, which wraps in 2018.
- During that 2012 fall reporting period, monthly rent for the average one-bedroom Calgary apartment unit was more than \$950.

## Cancer survivor. Airdrie boy, 10, hoping to ease treatment for others



Dr. David Johnson, right, speaks with Lisa Colford and her son Michael Andrews at the Alberta Children's hospital. ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

After being diagnosed with a rare cancer when he was two years old, Michael Andrews beat the disease, and now, at age 10, he hopes to help minimize the side effects of treatment for other kids.

"It affected my hearing," Michael said. "Now I can't hear high-pitched sounds."

To help doctors better understand how a particular drug resulted in that adverse effect, Michael and his mom Lisa Colford agreed to let researchers take a sample of his DNA to add to a nationwide databank.

Dr. David Johnson, a pediatrician leading the Calgary

arm of the project, said it's well known that different people react differently to the same drugs, but exactly why is still being worked out.

"The suspicion is that, in some cases, the bad outcomes ... are often a result of our underlying genes," he said.

Johnson encouraged parents of children who have taken drugs known to have adverse effects to take part in the study.

He said it's simply a matter of mentioning it to a family physician, who will then connect participants with researchers.

ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

## School in St. Paul

## Man pleads guilty to crash that killed girl

A man has pleaded guilty to criminal charges after his minivan plowed through the wall of a rural Alberta school and killed an 11-year-old girl.

Richard Edward Benson, 47, pleaded guilty earlier this month in St. Paul court to one count of criminal negligence causing death and two counts of criminal negligence causing bodily harm. He has not yet been sentenced and is to appear again in court on Nov. 14.

Benson's family said earlier that he had a history of seizures and was likely having an attack when he was behind the wheel last October.

The van smashed through a window of Racette Junior High School in St. Paul and dove into a lower-level Grade 6 classroom.

Three girls were pinned under the van and airlifted to hospital where one of them, Megan Wolitski, died the next day.

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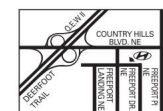
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# 'I feel very sad' about giving back degrees: Former SMU student

**Frosh week pro-rape chant.** Calgary businessman urges Saint Mary's university president to step down



**HALEY RYAN**  
Metro in Halifax

In the cool air of Tuesday morning, Daren Miller leaned his two degrees from Saint Mary's University against the fence around the former Halifax Infant's Home and walked away.

Miller, a chartered financial analyst living in Calgary, flew to Halifax to return his bachelor of arts and bachelor of commerce degrees to Saint Mary's in the wake of a pro-rape chant caught on video during frosh week.

Hundreds of first-year

students were led in a chant spelling out "young," with lines like, "U is for underage, N is for no consent."

Saint Mary's registrar Paul Dixon greeted Miller and accepted the degrees after they were placed against the fence.

"I feel very sad having done it. It represented five years of extremely hard work," said Miller, who graduated in 1995.

The degrees will also be removed from his resumé, Miller said, because he wanted to distance himself from the culture of misogyny at the university.

Miller called for Saint Mary's president Colin Dodds to step down on Tuesday, and have the school hire someone with experience handling "damaged reputations" because a culture shift can only happen with "change at the top."

"The university respects his right to protest," said uni-

versity spokesperson Steve Proctor, who added Miller had turned down Dodds's invitation of a private meeting.

Miller said despite his own feelings, turning over the degrees was also to stand with those who feel "marginalized" at Saint Mary's, and with victims of sexual abuse across the country.

"For me, this will go away," Miller said. "For ... someone who has been abused, that will live with them their entire lives."

Miller said he is "under no illusion" that rape jokes and sexist behavior are just a Halifax problem.

"My idea of Canada does not include this rape culture. I was absolutely shocked to see something like this in 2013," Miller said. "I think men need to understand, particularly on a campus scene, that no means no."



Daren Miller of Calgary poses for a portrait in Halifax prior to returning his degrees to Saint Mary's University on Tuesday. JEFF HARPER/METRO

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## Spike's move to Florida. Elephant on his way to becoming a snowbird

The Calgary Zoo's male Asian Elephant is going south for the winter... and beyond.

Spike is now on his way to his new home at Busch Gardens in Tampa, Fla. The zoo made the announcement of Spike's departure earlier this summer, as they begin the relocation of all of their elephants.

Spike, 31, was loaded into his carrying crate Tuesday morning and the zoo said it went exceptionally well.

Spike is accompanied by a

### More online

- More Spike coverage at [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca)



full team of elephant experts including a veterinarian and elephant handlers from both Busch Gardens and Calgary Zoo. The transport crate has close-circuit monitoring and is temperature controlled.

METRO

Oct. 4

## Hearing set to determine pit bull's fate held over

A hearing that will determine the fate of a Calgary pit bull shot in the face by a cop he lunged at has been put over to October.

Tara Sprayson, owner of

one-year-old pup Pig, said she learned Tuesday during a court appearance that evidence will be presented for and against sparing the dog Oct. 4.

Pig lunged at a cop who opened the door of a car pulled over for speeding in July. Sprayson was charged with possession of marijuana in connection with that stop.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

# Support 'blew my mind,' says victim of vandalism



Volunteer work crews from City Mosaic Church renovate Paul's house after it was damaged and vandalized with racist graffiti. CONTRIBUTED

## Hate-biased vandalism.

Metro readers who saw Paul's story are also helping him with bills



ROBSON  
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After his house was vandalized and covered in racist graffiti last month, a Calgary landlord says he's been overwhelmed by the outpouring of support from strangers who have now become friends.

### Helping hand

"We got the understanding that he was in a bad state and we thought, 'Well, we'll see if we can help out.'"

Dave Bruce of First Alliance Church on why the "Tool Team" wanted to help out

"I mean, it just blew my mind," said Paul, whose last name Metro has agreed to withhold as he still has concerns about his safety.

Paul, who is originally from Nigeria, found his rental property abandoned and heavily damaged in August, with crudely drawn swastikas and the words "White Power" and "KKK" on the walls, in what police described as a "hate-biased" crime.

But the house has now been almost completely renovated thanks to the help of a volunteer work crew from City Mosaic Church.

"They have been there at least five or six times with at least 12 or 14 people, on average, working on the house," Paul said.

Members of First Alliance Church have also helped by hauling away truckloads of trash from the property, he added, and they're also working to get new carpet installed.



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# Calgary gets Governor General commendation



Mayor Naheed Nenshi accepts a commendation from Governor General David Johnston on behalf of all Calgarians and their efforts to rebuild the city after June's flooding. GLENN KELLY/FOR METRO

## First time an entire city snagged honour.

David Johnston presents award to Calgarians for impressive response to massive flooding in June

Calgarians were honoured as a community of heroes Tuesday,

as Governor General David Johnston presented a commendation for outstanding service to all citizens and public servants in the city for their aid and response during June's massive flooding.

At a ceremony held at Jack Singer Concert Hall and hosted by CBC's David Grey, Mayor Naheed Nenshi accepted the commendation on behalf of all Calgarians.

"Our commitment, our generosity and our compassion run deep," said Nenshi.

The presentation marks the first time in Canadian history that an entire city has been presented with the award, a feat that the Governor General said was well deserved considering the unprecedented scale of volunteer efforts during and after the flood.

"People across the city raised

their voices and asked, 'What can I do to help?'" said Johnston in a speech.

"After the floodwaters had receded, there was a renewed faith in the city, a willingness to roll up wet sleeves and plow forward, to rebuild a better and stronger Calgary. You have earned many times over, the pride and respect of all Canadians."

GLENN KELLY/FOR METRO



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## St. Paul. Man pleads guilty to driving van into school, killing 11-year-old girl

A man has pleaded guilty to criminal charges after his minivan plowed through the wall of a rural Alberta school and killed an 11-year-old girl.

Richard Edward Benson pleaded guilty earlier this month in St. Paul court to one count of criminal negligence causing death and two counts of criminal negligence causing bodily harm.

The 47-year-old, who remains in custody, has not yet been sentenced and is to appear again in court on Nov. 14.

Benson's family said earlier that he had a history of seizures and was likely hav-

ing an attack when he was behind the wheel on Oct. 25, 2012.

Witnesses said the van was heading down a back alley before it smashed through a fence and then a window, diving into a lower-level classroom just after the Grade 6 French class had started for the day.

The van sent students and desks flying as it spun around and pinned three girls underneath it.

The girls were airlifted 200 kilometres west to a hospital in Edmonton where one of them, Megan Wolitski, died the next day.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



The Alberta classroom where a minivan smashed through a window and landed on top of three students, killing one of them, in October 2012. The driver has now pleaded guilty to charges in connection with the incident.

IAN JACKSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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## B.C. Kids' watchdog says it's a miracle abused girl branded 'evil' survived

British Columbia's children's watchdog says a girl who was nearly starved to death endured 18 months of horrific abuse after being branded an "evil child" at her grandfather's home in Saskatchewan.

Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond made the comments Tuesday as she released a report examining the tragic treatment of a three and a half year old aboriginal girl who was moved from B.C. to Saskatchewan, where her mistreatment continued.

Turpel-Lafond said policies and standards for placing

vulnerable children in homes across Canada must undergo reviews to better support the needs of kids and families.

She said Children's Ministry officials should have known better than to place the girl with a man who was known as a poor and abusive parent.

"This child's best interests were never taken seriously, and as a result she was ... severely traumatized and emotionally and physically injured."

She said it's a miracle the girl, who now is eight years old, survived. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Jeffrey Baldwin

### Starvation witness didn't want to 'cause friction'

A man who witnessed the fatal starvation of a five-year-old boy at the hands of his grandparents was "bugged," but didn't want to "create

friction" by reporting it, he told an inquest Tuesday.

A coroner's inquest into the death of Jeffrey Baldwin heard Tuesday from Mike Reitemeier, who was living in the home with his partner. The inquest was the first time he has spoken publicly about what Jeffrey went through.

**THE CANADIAN PRESS**

# Drugs, guns arriving in Canada via mail system

### Special delivery.

'A diverse range of contraband goods' are being shipped into the country — in one case, even a rocket launcher

Criminals are using the Canadian postal system to transport illicit goods including guns, grenades, dangerous chemicals and, in one case, even a rocket launcher, says a newly declassified RCMP report.

Counterfeit items — from fake Olympic hockey sweaters to bogus passports — as well as drugs such as cocaine and heroin are also arriving in the country through Canada Post, says the criminal intelligence report.

It calls for greater collaboration between police and postal



Canada Post vehicles sit outside a depot in Montreal in this file photo. Criminals are using the Canadian postal system to transport illicit goods including guns, grenades, dangerous chemicals and, in one case, even a rocket launcher, says a newly declassified RCMP report. GRAHAM HUGHES/THE CANADIAN PRESS

officials to detect suspect parcels, noting legislation limits the ability of police to search and seize mail.

"There is a diverse range of contraband goods being shipped through the Canadian postal system, some of which

pose a risk to the safety of Canadians," says the November 2012 report, which draws on information from more than a dozen police forces and Canada's border agency.

Handguns, ammunition, brass knuckles, body armour,

hand grenades, stun guns and signal jamming devices are being shipped to Canada from abroad, says the report.

"In one instance, a rocket launcher was even found entering through the mail."

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# PQ opens door to 'improving' values charter

**Debate over minority rights.** Government says it may amend the plan before it's tabled as a bill this fall

The Parti Quebecois says it could amend its controversial values charter based on public input it receives before submitting the minority-accommodation plan to the legislature.

The comments come one week after the release of the PQ's proposals, which has touched off an acrimonious debate on minority rights.

That promise to listen, and potentially amend the re-

ligion plan before it's tabled as a bill this fall, echoes statements from the PQ during the summer.

"We're looking at ways to improve the proposal," said Quebec's minister responsible for Montreal, Jean-Francois Lisee, on Tuesday.

"We're listening. It's been less than one week, we're asking people to participate and we'll take these into consideration."

He offered no details on what the potential changes might look like.

Because the current plan has no opposition support the minority government could either water it down, split it in half or preserve the

## Proposal

- The PQ wants to forbid public employees from wearing visible religious symbols including hijabs, turbans, yarmulkes and larger-than-average crucifixes.
- A poll this week suggests the plan has the support of most Quebec francophones, but that the support levels have dropped considerably.

entire thing for use in an election campaign.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



## All-nations gathering paddles for a cause

Members of the Squamish Nation paddle a traditional canoe on False Creek during an all-nations canoe gathering, held as part of Reconciliation Week in Vancouver on Tuesday. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada is holding the event from Sept. 18 to 21. The commission was formed by the Canadian government with a mandate to learn the truth about what happened in the residential schools and to inform the public.

DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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# Navy Yard suspect heard voices: Report

**Mental state.** Aaron Alexis feared voices he heard might harm him, according to Rhode Island police report

A month before he went on the rampage that left 13 dead, Washington Navy Yard gunman Aaron Alexis complained to police in Rhode Island that

people were talking to him through the walls and ceilings of his hotel rooms and sending microwave vibrations into his body to prevent him from sleeping.

The account, contained in an Aug. 7 report from the Newport, R.I., police department, adds to the picture that has emerged since Monday's baffling attack of an agitated and erratic naval contractor.

A day after the assault in the U.S. capital, the motive

was still a mystery. U.S. law enforcement officials said that investigators had found no manifesto or other writings suggesting a political or religious motive.

They said Alexis, a 34-year-old information-technology employee with a defence contractor, used a valid pass to get into the heavily secured Washington Navy Yard and then killed 12 people before he was gunned down by police in a shootout that lasted

more than a half-hour.

Alexis had been undergoing mental-health treatment from Veterans Affairs since August but was not stripped of his security clearance, according to the law enforcement officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the criminal investigation was still going on.

He had been suffering a host of serious mental problems, including paranoia and

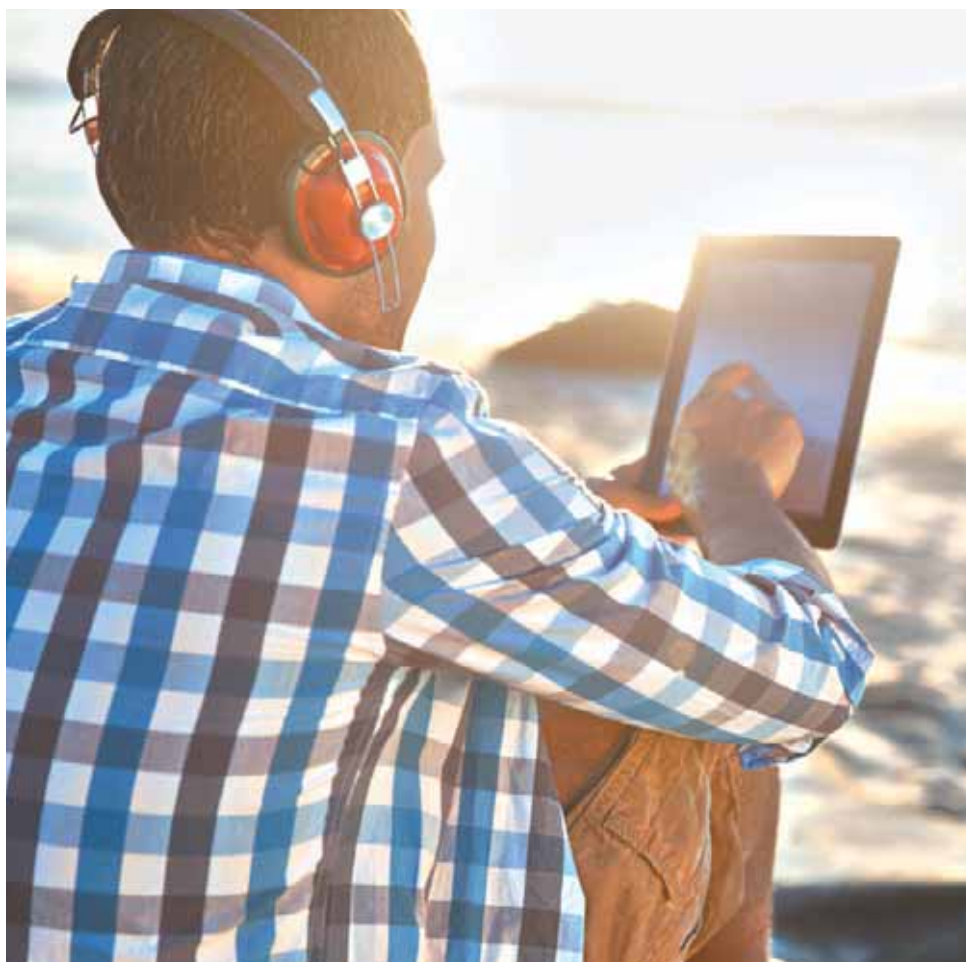
a sleep disorder, and had been hearing voices in his head, the officials said.

The assault is raising more questions about the adequacy of the background checks done on contract employees and others who are issued security clearances — an issue that came up most recently with U.S. National Security Agency leaker Edward Snowden, an IT employee with a government contractor.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Suspected Navy Yard gunman  
Aaron Alexis. FBI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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## Nice. Anger in France as jeweler shoots and kills suspected teenage thief

Outrage is growing in France over the decision to bring voluntary homicide charges against a jeweler who shot and killed an escaping robber, but the country's top security official on Tuesday urged fearful storekeepers to let justice take its course.

The 67-year-old jeweler, Stephan Turk, was confined at home with an electronic brace-

let after the shooting last week that left a teenage robber dead in the street outside Turk's jewelry store in the French Riviera city of Nice.

An accomplice escaped on a motorbike as the body of Anthony Asli, 19, lay on the street. Asli had been in trouble as a juvenile and was freed about a month ago from detention.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Back up again

The Costa Concordia ship is seen after it was lifted upright, off the Tuscan Island of Giglio, Italy, Tuesday morning. Engineers declared success as the Costa Concordia cruise ship was pulled completely upright during a complicated, 19-hour operation to wrench it from its side where it capsized last year off Tuscany. It was an unprecedented feat that sets the stage for it to be towed away next year.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



### England robbery

## Man stabbed over video game: Cops

British police say a man who bought a copy of Grand Theft Auto V when it went on sale at midnight was attacked, stabbed and robbed of the game on his way home in London, England.

Police said the 23-year-old man, who has not been named, was attacked near a supermarket in north London early Tuesday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



## Iran. Social media blocked again after 'technical' glitch

Word of the opening of Iran's blocked social media sites was spread, of course, by social media itself, with celebratory tweets and breathless Facebook posts. Hours later, the same sites Tuesday chewed over the sobering reality that the four-year-old firewalls were back in place.

But others interpreted the seesaw events as signs of growing internal struggles between the moderate-leaning President Hasan Rouhani, who has promised to ease Iran's cyber-censorship, and hard-liners in the Islamic establishment who see no benefit in lifting restrictions intended to foil potential political opponents and reformists.



Women surf the web in Tehran, Iran, on Tuesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The window allowed users to access banned sites such as Twitter and Facebook directly rather than having to use proxy servers that bypass Iranian controls. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Victims' families fight committee's quest for standing

**Lac-Mégantic disaster.** U.S. bankruptcy trustee says all creditors are already represented at MMA proceedings

The families of some victims of the deadly rail crash in Lac-Mégantic are opposing a Quebec committee's quest for official standing at Montreal Maine & Atlantic's bankruptcy proceedings in the United States.

The estates of 18 victims of the July 6 derailment and explosion told a U.S. court in Maine that they object to the Quebec group's efforts to be appointed as an official creditors' committee to represent the provincial government, the municipality and some wrongful death and personal injury claimants, along with those that sustained



Rescue workers at the site of the Lac-Mégantic train derailment on July 16. The crash killed 47 people. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

property damages.

Trustee Robert Keach says the appointment is unnecessary because he represents the interests of all creditors, including the victims of the derailment and those who filed class-action suits in Illinois. He adds that recognizing the committee would increase costs and "sap what limited resources of the debtor exist."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

### Hazardous rail cargo

## Mayors face pushback from feds

A push by municipal leaders to know more about hazardous rail cargo rattling through their communities is raising security concerns in the federal government.

Claude Dauphin, the president of the municipal federation, says Transport Canada officials are concerned any advance information on the movement of hazardous goods could fall into the wrong hands. But he says mayors are not looking for individual cargo manifests. THE CANADIAN PRESS

### Celebrity spokescat

## Shut up and eat the kibble: Grumpy Cat gets food deal

It probably won't affect her mood, but Grumpy Cat now has an endorsement deal. The frown-faced web sensation, real name Tardar Sauce, is now the "spokescat" for a Friskies brand of cat food, Nestle Purina Pet-Care said Tuesday. Photos of Grumpy Cat, her brown and white face in a constant scowl, are a constant presence on social media.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Market Minute

	<b>DOLLAR</b> 97.13¢ (+0.28¢)
	<b>TSX</b> 12,834.11 (+17.23)
	<b>OIL</b> \$105.42 US (-\$1.17)
	<b>GOLD</b> \$1,309.40 US (-\$8.40)
<b>Natural gas:</b> \$3.73 US (-1¢)	
<b>Dow Jones:</b> 15,529.73 (+34.95)	

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Some addictions are bad for you, e.g. crack cocaine or cracked-pepper potato chips.

Some addictions are good for you, e.g. Iron-Man triathlons.

Some addictions, it's hard to tell, e.g. peanuts and trivia.

An addiction to trivia can have dire consequences for innocent bystanders, especially if you find yourself a captive audience on a crowded airplane or at a dinner party where the main dish is composed mostly of quinoa.

Of course, it depends on the quality of the trivia. There is boring trivia, and then there's the stuff you simply can't get enough of. If you ask me, we spend too much time on the boring stuff—especially on quiz shows like Jeopardy and the Million Second Quiz. It's all about the prize money, but the trivia? Meh.

It doesn't have to be that way. Did you know that the universe is shaped like a vuvuzela (that annoying South African soccer horn)? Well, you do now. Just try to forget it.



**JUST SAYIN'**  
**Paul Sullivan**  
metronews.ca

Or how about: In 2008, a man in Ohio was arrested for having sex with a picnic table. How could you not want to know that?

There's more: Did you know that Saddam Hussein's secret bunker was designed by the grandson of the woman who built Hitler's secret bunker? All in the (Bunker) family ...

You need to know this stuff. And there's plenty more where that came from. Precisely 1,224 items in a book created by the people behind the British quiz show QI called 1,227 Quite Interesting Facts to Blow Your Socks Off (a quite interesting book).

British quiz shows are more interesting than North American quiz shows because they're not exercises in crass one-upmanship for cash, not that there's anything wrong with that. But QI understands the true beauty of trivia. Once you know that Italy's biggest business is the Mafia, accounting for \$178 billion a year and seven per cent of that country's GDP, you will hold your own wherever you sit at the table.

Trivia is important because "everyone is entitled to their own opinions, but they are not entitled to their own facts" according to legendary U.S. Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan (1927-2003), which is the epigraph at the outset of 1,227 Facts. If you simply can't stand to sit through yet another fatally flawed socio-politico-econo-cultural analysis of this or that big issue, simply wait for a lull in the conversation and let 'em have it with the big guns.

Did you know that a female ferret will die if she doesn't have sex for a year?

And if that doesn't do it this will: The founder of match.com, Gary Kremen, lost his girlfriend to a man she met on match.com.

You won't even need to justify the interruption and it will instantly dispel any conversational fog built up in the room.

Now, if you're getting bored, here are a couple of quickies to chew on as you head into work this morning:

Light travels 18 million times faster than rain. And Beyoncé is the eighth cousin, four times removed, of Austrian composer Gustav Mahler.

Beats crack cocaine or peanuts, doesn't it?

## ZOOM

### Battery drained? Use elbow grease



COURTESY JOE KIEZ

#### Device charges gadgets with human energy

You have lots of energy to make it through the day, but your cellphone battery doesn't. Not anymore.

A student from Humber College, in Toronto, has designed a device that could harvest kinetic energy from human motion to generate

energy to charge a wide variety of gadgets such as cellphones, MP3 players, smartphones and tablets. The current design—dubbed ENE—has theoretically demonstrated it can charge 20 times faster than traditional electric methods.

Designed by college student Joe Kiez, the innovation has been nominated and shortlisted for the James Dyson Award. **METRO**

#### James Dyson Award

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#### Power of the people

**"If you move, you are using and outputting power. Anyone and everyone that moves has the potential to create harvestable energy."**

Joe Kiez, Humber College student and James Dyson Award nominee

#### Clickbait



**HANNAH ZITNER**  
hannah.zitner@metronews.ca

**Train? Check. Cross-train? Check. Blog, tweet, Instagram? Check. For many athletes, physical training is just one part of 'making it' as a professional athlete, while hollering at fans and drawing attention to the sport is another (especially for our dear Canadian athletes). Meet Canada's blogging, tweeting, Instagramming runners:**

#### Rob Watson:

LeblogduRob.com sheds some light on the life of the London, Ont.-born runner who "digs the sport and digs the grind." You can also find him at @robbedxc.

#### Reid Coolsaet:

There's more to this runner's Instagram account than races and roads, follow @reidcoolsaet for arty portraits, landscapes and even beer drinking. As well, find his ramblings at Float On blog at reidcoolsaet.com.



COURTESY RITA IVANUSKAS

#### Twitter

**@metropicks asked: Three Toronto firefighters were fired for sexist tweets. Should a boss be allowed to axe for personal tweets?**

**@Cazzy:** It's up to the individual to make sure their online presence is hidden enough to not affect their job.

**@johnkuypers:** Firing 3 Toronto firemen over sexist tweets could be the worst leadership move I've seen in a while.



**Follow @metropicks and take part in our daily poll.**

#### Comments

**RE: Three Toronto Firefighters Sacked Over Sexist Tweets; Unions Express Anger, published Sept. 17**

Unions should not be allowed in any governmental office. The provincial statutes and federal laws should be enough.

**David Fletcher posted to metronews.ca**

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Wednesday, September 18, 2013

SCENE

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# Love in the time of technology

**Aziz Ansari.** Comedian aims to hit a deeper chord with audiences in his newest set, which will headline Toronto's JFL42 festival

Have you heard the one about the Indian comic? Because Aziz Ansari has — and he's pretty bored with it.

After enduring some racially inspired jabs at the hands of some of comedy's top stars for Comedy Central's recent roast of bleary-eyed James Franco, Ansari took his turn at the dais and shooting back, with his trademark earnestness: "I think it's so cool that some of you guys were able to travel back in time to 1995 for some of those Indian jokes you did. That's so cool!"

"Even with the sitcoms these days, it's people like me or Mindy Kaling and others — there's no 7-11 jokes or anything like that. I think the culture really has moved beyond that stuff, and that's why it was kind of jarring to hear those kinds of jokes and it's like, 'Really, you're really going to go there with this; you think that stuff is relevant anymore?'" he said in an interview.

He's certainly been around the stand-up circuit long enough, too — 12 sneaky years for the comedian with the boyish features and the contagious on-stage excitability, who has risen to fame

by stealing scenes in the NBC comedy Parks and Recreation as the cad Tom Haverford, and in the 2009 Judd Apatow vehicle Funny People.

Now, he's set to headline Toronto's JFL42 comedy festival, which will mark one of the first large-venue crowds that will see his new, still-untitled hour of comedy, exploring love in the time of technology — an issue in which, he says, he has some expertise.

"It's what I'm dealing with in my life — dating, trying to find someone, maybe not trying to find someone," said the 30-year-old. "I write my stand-up about whatever's consuming my head and when I was writing this stuff, that's what I was doing a lot."

"It was like, 'Man, this is such a weird time to be a person trying to find love. It's a very frustrating time in a lot of ways.' And it's struck a chord, with both men and women."

While his previous sets featured more standard comedic observations — stories about his North Carolina upbringing, about the time-sucking properties of the Internet, and the hijinks of his wide-eyed little cousin Harris — he calls this set his most difficult yet, aiming to spew his emotional guts while busting his audience's too.

"(With this set) I really tried to hit in a deeper way than I did with the other shows. This one, I'm really trying to do something different and I think I pull it off, but we'll see."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Comedian Aziz Ansari will explore love and technology in his new show. CONTRIBUTED/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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SCENE

metronews.ca  
Wednesday, September 18, 2013

# Dress up, fight crime, save the world

**New movie.** Hugh Jackman stars in the *Prisoner*, which treads on a familiar theme of taking the law into our own hands



**IN FOCUS**  
Richard Crouse  
scene@metronews.ca

In this weekend's movie *Prisoners*, a father, played by Hugh Jackman, kidnaps the man he thinks abducted his daughter and her young best friend.

It's a classic case of vigilante justice, a practice another movie character, Foxy Brown, called "as American as apple pie."

It's also illegal, dangerous and morally unsound, but that doesn't stop Hollywood from featuring vigilantes in their stories.

Comic books have supplied the movies with vigilantes for years.

According to comicbook-movie.com, "It is important to state one truth," they write, "(and) that is, all comic book heroes, unless sanctioned by the government, are vigilantes."

That's a wide group that includes, among others, Batman, Spider-Man and Iron Man.

Lesser known is Rorschach, the anti-hero of the graphic novel *The Watchmen* and played by Jackie Earle Haley in the movie of the same name.

He's a masked crime fighter who believes in only good and evil. This black-and-white morality drives his ruthless need to punish evil-doers at all costs.

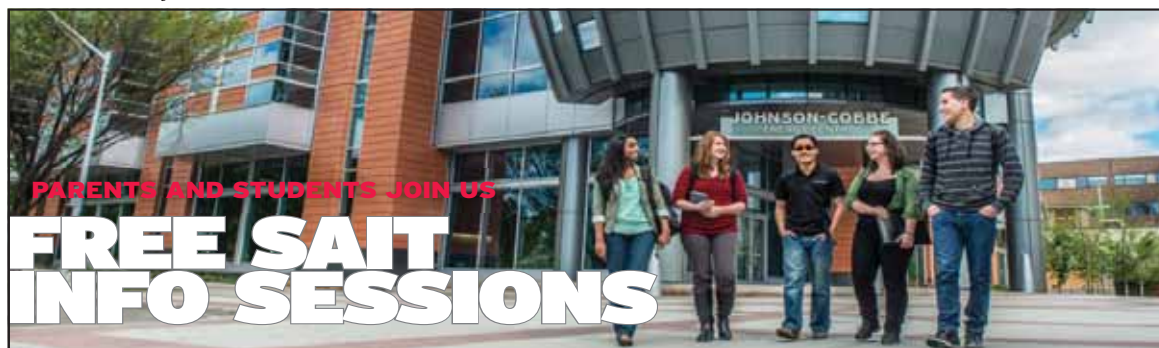
"Were it not for costumed vigilantism," says the actor, "He'd have nothing."

Rorschach is effective and lethal, but Paul Kersey didn't wear a costume to earn his star on the Vigilante Walk of Fame.

As played by Charles Bronson in five *Death Wish* movies, he cleaned up the streets with an efficiency that would



Hugh Jackman stars in *Prisoners*, opening this weekend. CONTRIBUTED



Choosing the program that's right for you is a big decision. That's why SALT Polytechnic offers information sessions - your golden opportunity to discover your program options, ask questions, and sometimes, tour our campus.

Our sessions are free and range in topic and timing. Details on all our sessions can be found on the events calendar at [sait.ca](http://sait.ca). Here's just a few we are offering this month:

## FAST-TRACK INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TRAINING

Now is the time to train in one of SALT's accelerated, skills-based FAST-TRACK Information Technology programs and launch your career as an IT professional in just a few months! Seats are available for the following programs:

- Business Intelligence: Data Analysis and Reporting • Database Administrator
- Technology Infrastructure Management • Network Technician • Object-Oriented Software Developer
- Web Developer

Join us on Wednesday, September 18 at 7:00 pm in Room MD321 in the Stan Grad Centre.  
Call 403.284.7149 or Email [fast-track@sait.ca](mailto:fast-track@sait.ca) to confirm your attendance or for more information.

## RAILWAY CONDUCTOR

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## Quote

"I started out thinking, 'Let's go out and make a movie about killing all these scumbags,' and then I met these people and realized they were helpless, just as much as the victims."

**Michael Caine**  
Talking about making *High Noon*

make the *Watchmen* envious. In the original 1974 film *Kersey* is an architect driven to taking the law into his own hands following the brutal murder of his wife.

"If the police don't defend us," he says, "maybe we ought to do it ourselves."

Star Bronson was quick to say that he didn't "advocate anyone taking the law into their own hands," but knew that the *Death Wish* movies were popular because, "Audiences like to see the bad guys get their comeuppance."

Harry Brown is a gritty *Gran Torino* with British accents and a dash of *Death Wish*.

Michael Caine plays the title character as *High Noon*'s Gary Cooper, but instead of being set on the wide open plain, the action in this Teabag Western takes place in the urban terrain of the Elephant and Castle section of London.

"This movie changed me," Caine said.

"I started out thinking, 'Let's go out and make a movie about killing all these scumbags,' and then I met these people and realized they were helpless, just as much as the victims, and they had been neglected and they need help."

# Rick Ross moving on after his divorce from Reebok

**Music.** Rapper talks about how a business relationship went sour and help from Jay-Z

Even though Rick Ross lost his deal with Reebok this year, the Miami-based rapper continues to sport and promote the sneaker brand.

"I'm still supporting Reebok. I'm still wearing Reebok," he said in an interview

last week. "It's nothing more than that. I've been wearing Reebok my whole life ... Still got nothing but love for Reebok."

The burly, husky-voiced Ross became known for his colorful and heavy lyrics, rapping about the grimy street life, money, luxury cars and women. But the Grammy-nominated performer took things too far on Rocko's song, *U.O.E.N.O.*, where he raps about giving a woman the drug MDMA, known as

Molly, and having his way with her. Petitions were issued by women's groups and rape victims.

Reebok terminated its contract with Ross in April following the heavy criticism.

## What did you learn from your setback with Reebok?

You live and you learn. I think the most unfortunate thing about the whole situation was just the fact that my lyrics offended some ladies, especially dealing

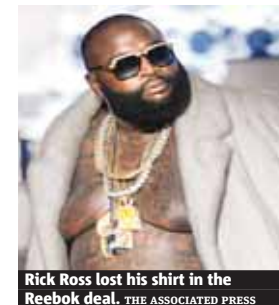
with the topic of rape. It was interpreted as rape. I really wanted to make sure that I apologize to any woman that I offended in that way. I just wanted to make that clear. When I make music and I'm talking on records, it's like I'm painting a picture. In my mind, I'm seeing a film. I apologize.

**Jay-Z has supported you since he signed you to Def Jam in 2006. How has he helped you through your**

## maturation?

He's been a part of pretty much every project I've put together as a solo artist. He's always been there any time I've made a call. It's just an array of things I've learned from him outside of music, like handling business and money. ...I come from down South where I want the music, bass and the beats that shake the walls. Hov talked to me about performing.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Rick Ross lost his shirt in the Reebok deal. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS





January Jones. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

## January Jones linked to Miley's separation

January Jones might not have been the reason for Miley Cyrus and Liam Hemsworth's engagement falling apart, but she reportedly didn't help matters much.

Sources tell Us Weekly that Hemsworth had been pursuing the Mad Men star fervently in the months leading up to the split.

"January consoled him," a source says.

"January thinks Liam is so sexy."

A rep for Jones, however, says, "This is absolutely untrue."

Cyrus' rep confirmed earlier this week that the couple's engagement is officially off.

# METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

### The Word

## Robin Williams returns to TV because he's broke

### THE WORD

Melinda Taub  
scene@metronews.ca

It's a sign of the times that so many movie stars quietly return to television after a few years or decades. Most will claim it's because TV is so creatively vibrant now, or whatever.

Not Robin Williams. He'll happily admit that he signed on to his new TV series *The Crazy Ones*, with Sarah Michelle Gellar, for the dough, which will then



go to his ex-wives.

"The idea of having a steady job is appealing," Williams told *Parade Magazine*. "I have two (other) choices: go on the road doing stand-up, or do small, independent movies working almost for scale

(minimum union pay). The movies are good, but a lot of times they don't even have distribution. There are bills to pay. My life has downsized, in a good way. I'm selling the ranch up in Napa. I just can't afford it anymore."

Impressively candid. Most movie stars, even if their star has clearly dimmed, don't like to admit they're not high rollers anymore.

And Williams has two ex-wives, which he admits takes a big bite out of his income.

"Divorce is expensive. I used to joke they were going to call it 'all the money,' but they changed it to 'alimony.' It's ripping your heart out through your wallet."



Justin Theroux

## Theroux scaling back his art collection

Justin Theroux admits that building a life together with Jennifer Aniston has meant some compromises — like ditching some questionable artwork.

"They're just these open mouths, with tongues, and in the throats are different stages, labeled, of syphilis and gonorrhea and whatever. Those definitely found a great place in my office in L.A. They weren't going to be above the fireplace anytime."

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# Sunny days in Los Angeles

**Guide.** From star-style fare to more budget-friendly options, this city has it all



**JIM BYERS**  
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It's impossible to capture such an immense city in one story so I'll keep this focused on Hollywood and downtown Los Angeles, which has seen an incredible resurgence.

## Sleeping

The Roosevelt, a Thompson property, was home to the first Academy Awards ceremony, which lasted only minutes (if only it were still the case). Marilyn Monroe often did photo shoots at the pool and used to sleep there regularly, amongst other things. There's a cool, old-fashioned, two-lane bowling alley in a funky upstairs bar, an airy, Spanish-looking lobby and fun, modern rooms. Prices in October from \$299. Downtown, The Standard offers a chic rooftop bar and rooms from \$225. There's also the sleek Ritz Carlton, part of the L.A. Live entertainment complex. There's a beautiful pool and bar on the 26th floor and a Wolfgang Puck restaurant. Rooms in October from \$419.

## Dining

Try Public at the Roosevelt in Hollywood for grilled octopus or even rabbit, served in a bright room with diamond-tufted banquettes and lots of dark wood. The



The Roosevelt is a great old hotel in Hollywood that's seen its share of glamour over the years. PHOTOS JIM BYERS/METRO

burgers at the hotel burger bar, called 25 Degrees, have been voted L.A.'s best many times. They also serve up a chocolate milkshake with, um, Guinness. A personal favourite for budget types is Tommy's Burgers at Beverly and Rampart, where the gooey, napkin-destroying chiliburgers are legendary. Downtown, near Union Station, you'll find Philippe's original. The place has hardly changed in decades, right down to the pickled eggs on the counter and the wait staff. Angelenos of all colours and creeds gather to munch on roast beef French dip sandwiches (ask for a double dip for more juice)



The Sunset Hollywood Ranch is a wonderful spot to soak up southern California's cowboy culture.

and local beers. It's just 65 cents for lemonade and 45 for coffee. Former mayor

Richard Riordan runs the Original Pantry. They serve up excellent hash browns

## Doing

Olvera Street is an old Mexican-American area with souvenir stands selling cheap, colourful guitars and great knickknacks for a few bucks. You can dine on cheap burritos or tacos and watch mariachi bands in full dress. Wander down to the Disney Concert Hall, designed by Ontario's own Frank Gehry. The nearby Angels Flight is an old-time funicular that takes you up (or down) Bunker Hill for 50 cents and is billed as the shortest railway in the world (just shy of 91 metres). The Grand Central Market has gorgeous produce and a shop selling jars of sarsaparilla, comfrey, ginger and more. Want a real change? Try a horseback ride in the hills with the folks at Sunset Hollywood Ranch, where you'll find remnants of southern California's cowboy culture and outstanding views.

and spicy Portuguese sausage at breakfast.

## Drinking

The Library Bar at The Roosevelt is a tiny spot with dark wood and zebra-striped chairs. Bartenders have locally grown herbs on the counter and will mix a drink to your taste. I had bourbon with lemon and rosemary that was fresh and flavourful. Just down the road, Musso and Frank is known for both steaks and perfectly dry martinis served in an old-time setting. There's a cool rooftop spot at Perch on Hill Street, complete with fireplaces. (Hey, it can get cold in L.A. at night).

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# Mt. Fuji a victim of its own popularity

**Under pressure.** With its recent recognition as a UNESCO World Heritage site, some worry bigger crowds will flock to Fuji

They trudge up well-trod cinder paths by the thousands, headlamps glowing in the dark, and then settle in, shivering, to await and cheer the sun's blazing ascent over the horizon.

Climbing Mount Fuji, Japan's most iconic landmark, is a group activity: Seldom is it climbed in solitude. The recent recognition of the 3,776-metre peak as a UNESCO World Heritage site has many here worried that it will draw still more people, adding to the wear and tear on the environment from the more than 300,000 who already climb the mountain each year.

Safety is another concern. At least seven people died and 70 were hurt climbing Fuji in 2012, and traffic jams of climbers in the pre-dawn darkness can add to the risks, says Shomei Yokouchi, governor of Yamanashi, the area to the west. The official climbing season runs July to August, and the trek — nine hours round trip in good weather — is especially treacherous other times of the year.

Mount Fuji's near perfect cone was created by an eruption thousands of years ago that buried earlier peaks, and pilgrims have been climbing to it for centuries — though women have been allowed only since 1868. It towers over the Pacific coast, ringed by lakes, national parks, temples and shrines that are also part of the World Heritage site.

The new status, granted in June, will likely help area businesses — a welcome boost given the economic decline in most of rural Japan. Local authorities are puzzling, however, over how to preserve its natural beauty while improving traffic access and other facilities to accommodate the anticipated increase in visitors.

Some have suggested limiting access by raising tenfold the 1,000 yen (\$10) climbing fee. But that might lead climbers to risk hypothermia by roughing it outdoors instead of staying in the 16 huts along the top of the trail, which charge up to \$100 a night for cheek-by-jowl communal accommodations.

"With more foreigners visiting, we will need to think of improving the facilities," Gov. Yokouchi says, noting that the installation of composting toilets has helped. "They are cleaner than before and the smell's not so bad, but there are not enough of them."

Then there's the litter.

Each year 40,000 to 50,000

volunteers clean up garbage on the peak. Groups collected nearly 900 tons to prepare for June's World Heritage vote by UNESCO, the UN's cultural organization.

The designation is something to be proud of, says Hisataka Kurosawa, a 16-year-old high school student who recently joined a group of volunteers who climbed part of a trail and then scrounged around a car park near a visitor centre, collecting several big bags worth of oil cans, cigarette butts, car parts and candy wrappers.

"It's getting polluted and so many people are running around. I'm a bit disappointed about that," he says.

The volunteers were led by Toyohiro Watanabe, a former local government official who runs a civic group called Groundwork Mishima.

It's not just the crowds that worry him. He also frets over acid rain from sea water mixed with emissions from factories on the coast. Over invasive plant species, such as the bamboo grass that grows thick along the roadsides, obscuring some of the litter tossed from passing vehicles.

Global warming may be contributing to huge fissures on Fuji's slopes prone to erosion and landslides, he says. "Although Fuji has a power of its own, it is being influenced by global warming and other



Thousands of hikers cheer from the summit of Mount Fuji in Japan as the sun rises. PHOTOS: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Costs of conservation

UNESCO has long acknowledged the risks to World Heritage sites, both from natural disasters and unsustainable levels of tourism. Even for a country as wealthy as Japan, tight budgets mean fewer resources available to support conservation.



Hikers are packed into sleeping rows at a rest station before the summit of Mount Fuji.

factors," Watanabe says as he looks for trouble spots in some of the most frequented areas. "It is getting weaker."

Though it last erupted in 1707, Mount Fuji remains an active volcano; Japanese seismologists watch it closely. The bigger risk, though, is from accidents. Fuji is hardly steep,

but its high elevation and fickle weather can make it a hazardous climb. "There are rock falls, and sometimes people are un-

able to get out of the way," Yokouchi, the Yamanashi governor, says.

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Hikers with headlamps stop to take pictures during their climb to the summit of Mount Fuji in Japan before dawn. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On a budget?

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ON THE MOVE  
Loren Christie  
life@metronews.ca

Budget travelers rejoice! Europe on \$50 a day is still possible.

### Accommodation

Hostels are no longer just for the young. If you are game, you can expect a shared bathroom and a basic dormitory style bedroom with anywhere from six to 20 other guests slumbering beside you. The prices vary between Eastern and Western Europe but they almost always include free breakfast and sometimes a free walking tour or bike rental. For \$10 you can buy a membership gold card for hostelsworld.com, which allows you to save on the \$2 service fee every time you book.

Camping is another way to cut down the budget. Scandinavia is one of the most expensive areas on the continent to travel but there is actually a law in Norway and Sweden that allows you to camp for free in any public place.



Camping is one way to keep under budget when travelling through Europe. KIT CLOUTIER/METRO

### Food and drink

Don't be afraid of street food. It is a unique culinary experience; cheap and delicious. The sausages you can buy in Germany and the Czech Republic are way better than a cheap restaurant experience. Consider shopping for your own groceries. Many hostels offer access to a kitchenette if you want to cook yourself a hot meal or have a picnic. If you are anxious for a restaurant meal, take the time to source out three different options. Force yourself to always compare prices before making a final choice.

ing a final choice.

### Sites and attractions

Your first stop should always be the local tourist office. Look for a list of free attractions and don't forget to grab a map. The back page is often full of discount coupons to local must-sees. Downloading free audio tours are another great way to learn about the destination. Search for alternatives to the expensive attractions. For example, in Barcelona skip the cable car and hike up to Parc Guell. You will share the same incredible

view with people who just paid 20 euros for it.

### Transportation

Travel on regional commuter trains and avoid the expresses. It may take longer but the savings are significant. For longer trips don't buy a Eurail pass. It is too restrictive and limiting and you also end up paying a reservation fee for every booking. A good alternative is the Eurostar bus company. Their pass covers a larger territory, offers flexible booking options and is cheaper.



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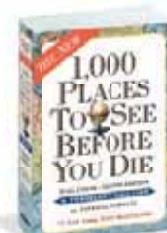
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# Taking the reel to the road in N.C.

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Road-trip your way through North Carolina and visit the filming locations of some of your favourite movies and TV shows, from *The Hunger Games* to *Homeland*, *Sleepy Hollow*, *Banshee*, *Revolution* and TIFF's *You Are Here*.

### Raleigh

Start your road trip in Raleigh (tip: it's easy to find free parking across the state). Stroll through downtown and keep your eyes peeled for the N.C. Supreme Court and State Capitol buildings, which you might recognize from the hit TV series *Homeland* (the show, set in Washington, D.C., is actually filmed in North Carolina).

Gorge on the best fried chicken in town (you're in the South, after all) at Beasley's Chicken + Honey, created by James Beard-nominee Ashley Christensen. And head over to Mitch's Tavern for a pint. If it looks familiar, you might recognize it from the bar fight scene in *Bull Durham* — a classic flick celebrating its 25th anniversary this year.

### Durham

Durham is a quick drive from Raleigh, and both movie and sports fans shouldn't miss the Historic Durham Athletic Park, where much of the *Bull Durham* action was shot.

Catch Durham's chilled-out vibe in the ultra-hip American Tobacco Historic District — factories that once supported America's tobacco industry now house a collection of shops, restaurants and bars.

Tyler's Taproom is a must, with 60 craft and specialty import beers on tap including a selection from Fullsteam Brewery, a "plow to pint" brewery that uses local produce — such as sweet potatoes, figs and basil



Take in the fall colours around Brevard, set in North Carolina's Blue Ridge Mountains. TRACY TURPEN/TRANSYLVANIA

— to make its beers.

Indulge yourself at Four Square Restaurant set in a charming Victorian house; chef Shane Ingram relies heavily on local farmers and changes the menu bi-monthly to reflect the freshest seasonal products.

Where to stay: The King's Daughters Inn combines the intimacy of a B&B with the luxurious touches of a high-end hotel, from gourmet breakfasts (think: eggnog pancakes) to a turn-down service that includes artisan chocolates and port.

### Charlotte

A three-hour drive will take you

to Charlotte — and if you're a fan of *Homeland*, this is where the action's at (see sidebar).

But there's more than movie action. Get active at the U.S. National Whitewater Center, which offers up 22 kilometres of mountain-biking and hiking trails, as well as a climbing centre, 335-metre zipline, flat-water kayaking and white-water rafting on a multiple-channel man-made river with class III-IV rapids (an AllSport Pass is \$54 for adults).

Or, learn about the city's history while stuffing yourself with the city's best cornbread and fried chicken on a "Taste &

Glide" segway tour with Charlotte NC Tours.

### Brevard

From Charlotte, drive a couple of hours to Brevard, the ultimate cool in mountain towns. Set in the Blue Ridge Mountains, the area is home to the Pisgah National Forest, Gorges State Park and, of particular interest to fans of *The Hunger Games*, the DuPont State Recreational Forest (also

### Get your Homeland fix

Visit these *Homeland* filming locations in Charlotte:

- Sip a cocktail at the Lobby Bar in the swish Ritz-Carlton, where Carrie gets her first inclination that Brody might indeed be hiding something.
- Or smoke a pre-Castro Cuban cigar at Cutter's Cigar Bar & Lounge at the Marriott City Center — complete with mother of pearl-inlaid pool table and mahogany wood bar — where Carrie meets up with Brody.
- And head to Ed's Tavern for a drink, which you may recognize as the bar where Brody meets up with his veteran buddies.

known as the "arena").

The best way to see where your favourite scenes were shot (like when Katniss finds Peeta lying in camouflage) is on a *Hunger Games* Unofficial Fan Tour — where you'll also get a chance to test your skills at archery and sling shot. If you're a cyclist, hiker, climber or kayaker, Brevard is a little slice of heaven. And be sure to take in a waterfall ... or 200.

### Asheville

A half an hour's drive will take you to retro-urban Asheville, known for its farm-to-table cuisine, cutting-edge music scene and thriving arts community. You won't find big-box retailers here — it's all about independent, eclectic boutiques, selling local art, funky jewelry and artisan chocolate.

Dinner at The Market Place Restaurant is a must, where chef and co-owner William Disen regularly updates his menu according to what's available from local farmers, ranchers, cheese-makers and winegrowers, combining a reverence for

Appalachian culinary heritage with worldly traditions.

**Damian Lewis stars as Marine Sergeant Nicholas Brody in *Homeland*.**

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# Faster, lighter, cheaper chili



**NUTRI-BITES**  
Theresa Albert  
DHN, RNCP  
myfriendinfood.com

There is enough here for two plus lunch.

Hearty beef chili gets so boring and this version is faster, lighter and contains more delicate flavours.

Buy ground chicken on sale in a large pack and break it down into smaller, useable packages.

Wrap tightly to freeze and it will last you a year. Better yet, double or quadruple this recipe and freeze the cooked

chili and save yourself both time and money.

**1.** Bring chicken stock to boil in a large skillet.

**2.** Add all ingredients except beans; cover and simmer to blend flavours, about 15 minutes.

**3.** Add kidney beans, undrained; simmer until heated through, about 5 minutes.

**THERESA ALBERT IS A FOOD COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST AND TORONTO PRIVATE NUTRITIONIST. SHE IS @THERESAALBERT ON TWITTER AND FOUND DAILY AT MYFRIENDINFOOD.COM**

## Ingredients

- 1/4 cup chicken stock (\$0.40)
- 1, medium onion, chopped (\$0.88)
- 1 large clove garlic, minced (\$0.05)
- 1/2 lb ground chicken (\$3)
- 1/4 cup drained canned green chilies, coarsely chopped (\$1.29)
- 1/2 tsp dried oregano (\$0.03)
- 1/2 tsp ground cumin (\$0.05)
- 1/2 teaspoon ground coriander (\$0.07)
- pinch ground cloves (\$0.01)
- pinch tsp cayenne pepper (\$0.01)
- 16 oz white kidney beans (cannellini beans) (\$1.29)

Total: 7.08/ per serving: \$1.77

## Five-Spice White Chili



This recipe serves four. LIZ BEDDALL OF LIZBEDDALL.COM

## Drink of the Week

### Passionate Sangria

As summer comes to an end, sip your way into fall with this Passionate Sangria. It's not only tasty but also easy to make.

- 1 bottle (750 ml) Solaz Tempranillo Cabernet Sauvignon
- 2 oz Duff Gordon brandy
- 2 oz Cinzano sweet red vermouth
- 1 cup pineapple juice
- 1 cup passion fruit juice
- Slices of oranges, lemons and limes (seeds removed)

Add all ingredients into a pitcher and gently stir. Refrigerate for 4-10 hours. Remove from refrigerator, add ice and stir gently before serving.



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f t w p



# If you build it, a career will come

## Create and be great.

The definition of 'engineer' is a broad one, but the perks of the profession are clear and plentiful

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We know that the road to becoming an engineer can be a long one for students and new grads. From trying to keep your grades up, to getting involved in the engineering community, to somewhat maintaining a social life, it can be hard to see the very bright light at the end of the tunnel.

To keep you on the right path, we compiled a list of the greatest things about a career as an engineer.

From having some of the highest entry-level salaries, to being able to work anywhere in the world, aspiring engineers have plenty of job perks to look forward to after a gruelling undergrad.

### There are plenty of options

There are tons of different sectors in the engineering industry, which gives students a lot of variety when choosing their career paths. Some of your options include mechanical, software, biomedical, chemical, environmental, and electrical engineering. With so many choices, it's almost certain that you'll find a sector that's just right for you.

### Growth opportunities

Engineers often times receive extraordinary training, mentoring, and onboarding to ensure that they get started on the right foot.



It's mandatory for engineers to keep up-to-date with all types of training, regulations, education and industry knowledge, so you can be confident you'll be working in an environment with the highest professional and legal standards. ISTOCK IMAGES

With this foundation, it's more likely that newly hired engineers will have the skills and resources needed to move up the ladder. Engineering companies will invest this type of effort into new graduates as they want to see them be successful, specifically within the company.

### Location, location, location

Engineers can work everywhere and are needed everywhere! Just take Beverly Bradley's story for example. She has been able to start her engineering career in Gambia building a medical oxygen source for third world countries! Just about everywhere you look in the world there is a need and opportunity for engineers to be successful — they're definitely not limited to one

location.

### Competitive salary

The salary that comes with a career in engineering is a definite plus! To become an Engineer it takes a high level of education, skill, and dedication, so it makes sense that an Engineer's salary reflects these investments. According to our 2012 engineering salary guide, new grads entering the industry are amongst some of the highest paid career hatches — and it only goes up!

### In demand

With a large amount of retirees exiting the workforce in the near future and industry expansion, there's no shortage of engineering jobs. This doesn't mean that the industry isn't competitive, it means that if you put a solid

effort into your job search and skill development there are career opportunities to be had.

### Every day is different

Engineers are not professionals who always sit at a desk from 9:00 am to 5:00

### Work that benefits society

One of the best things about being an Engineer is that your projects genuinely benefit societies around the globe.

- From medical advancements, to "green" revolutions, to implementing systems that keep communities safe, engineers develop innovations that are good for all of us.

p.m. Engineers work in all different types of environments (e.g., cities, rural areas, offices, forests, mountains) and during all hours of the day, depending on the task at hand. This not only makes the days go by faster, but also allows for variety, challenge, and diverse work opportunities.

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TJ Galiardi gathers the puck before scoring on Islanders goalie Anders Nilsson at the Scotiabank Saddledome on Tuesday night. JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Wideman, Flames engulf Islanders

## NHL pre-season.

Veteran defenceman does damage with two goals and a big hit

Led by two goals from Dennis Wideman, a Calgary Flames split squad scored four times in the second period Tuesday night on its way to a 5-3 victory over the New York Islanders split squad in NHL pre-season action.

The Islanders struck first when Michael Grabner raced in and wired a wrist shot into

the top corner on Joey MacDonald just three minutes into the game.

However, Calgary took over the game in the second period, scoring four straight goals to jump in front 4-1.

TJ Galiardi, Lance Bouma and Curtis Glencross into an empty net also scored for Calgary, which also beat the Islanders 4-2 in another split-squad game in Regina. The Flames played their fourth and fifth games of the pre-season and improved to 3-2.

Griffin Reinhart and Riley Wetmore also scored for the Islanders, who were play-

## 2-for-2

In the other split-squad game, Sean Monahan scored two goals to lead the Flames to a 4-2 win over the Islanders. Matt Stajan and Mikael Backlund also scored for Calgary.

ing their first two pre-season games.

Tied 1-1, Wideman scored his first of two goals at 7:39 on a long shot from the blue-line that deflected off an Islander and past goaltender Kevin

Poulin.

The goal came shortly after Wideman threw a textbook hip check along the side boards that sent Cal Clutterbuck upside down and drew a loud cheer out of those in attendance at the half-filled Scotiabank Saddledome.

Wideman added his second goal later in the second on a five-on-three power play. Showing tremendous patience, Wideman moved into the low slot and waited for an opening before zipping a shot past Anders Nilsson, who replaced Poulin halfway through the period. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

## CFL

## West Division sweeps weekly player awards

Edmonton quarterback Mike Reilly was named the top offensive player and Adam Bighill of the BC Lions earned defensive honours as the West Division dominated the CFL's player of the week awards.

Calgary punter Rob Maver won the special-teams award while Saskatchewan slotback Chris Getzlaf was the top Canadian.

Maver had five punts for 244 yards (averaging 48.8 yards) in the Stampeders' 26-22 home win over the Hamilton Tiger-Cats.

Maver, who's tied for second in the CFL with a punting average of 45 yards, also threw a 31-yard pass to Matt Walker on a fake punt.

**THE CANADIAN PRESS**

## Super Bowl

## Premium tickets double in price

Super Bowl fans can prepare to pay double for the best seats.

The NFL expects the most expensive tickets for its championship game will be about \$2,600 each for 9,000 premium seats for the Feb. 2 game at MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J.

That's more than twice the \$1,250 cost for similar tickets at last season's Super Bowl in New Orleans.

The next tier of seats is expected to go for \$1,500, compared to \$950 in New Orleans. About 40 per cent of general admission seats will be under \$1,000.

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## Orioles close in on wild card

Chris Davis of the Baltimore Orioles hits a home run in the 6th inning against the Boston Red Sox at Fenway Park on Tuesday. Danny Valencia tripled to stop closer Koji Uehara's streak of 37 consecutive outs and scored on Matt Wieters's sacrifice fly in the ninth inning as the Orioles beat the Red Sox 3-2. Baltimore sits 1.5 games back from the Indians, who beat the Royals 5-3, and two games back from the Rangers, who pulled even with the Rays at the top of the AL wild-card race after snapping a seven-game losing streak with a 7-1 victory.

JIM ROGASH/GETTY IMAGES

## Injuries. Blue Jays slugger Encarnacion, pitcher Cecil done for the season

Toronto Blue Jays first baseman Edwin Encarnacion is scheduled to undergo wrist surgery this week and will miss the final two weeks of the regular season.

The all-star slugger will have cartilage damage repaired in his left wrist.

"They said it's a simple procedure to clean it out," manager John Gibbons said before Tuesday's home game against the New York Yankees. "He's been dealing with it all year and just got to the point where his bat launch (letting go of the bat on his swing) became too frequent. You could tell he was battling it."

Gibbons said that left-handed reliever Brett Cecil would also go on the disabled list with a sore elbow. Cecil will have an MRI exam this week.

"He's had some elbow discomfort for a little over a month," Gibbons said. "He hadn't been pitching much. He'll get an MRI in the next few days. They don't think (it is serious) but he will get it checked



Toronto's Edwin Encarnacion will undergo wrist surgery this week.  
ROSS D. FRANKLIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

out."

Encarnacion finishes the season with 36 homers, 104 runs batted in, a .272 batting average and an on-base percentage of .370.

"He's had it on and off all year," Gibbons said. "That was the plan anyway, that he was going to have to get it cleaned up but it just got to the point now where he (needed surgery)." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

### MLB

## Dickey, Jays deal Yankees their 4th straight loss

Colby Rasmus and Rajai Davis homered and R.A. Dickey struck out eight in seven shutout innings as the Toronto Blue Jays defeated the New York Yankees 2-0 on Tuesday.

Rasmus hit his 21st homer of the season — and third in three games since returning from the DL — in the fourth inning against Andy Pettitte. Davis hit his sixth of the season against right-hander Shawn Kelley in the seventh.

The loss in the opener of a three-game series was the fourth in a row for the Yankees (79-72), who entered Tuesday 2 1/2 games out of an American League wild-card spot.

The Blue Jays (69-81) have won only twice in their first seven games of a nine-game homestand.

Dickey (13-12), meanwhile, held the Yankees to four hits and two walks to win his fourth consecutive decision. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

### MLB

#### AMERICAN LEAGUE

##### EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	92	60	.605	—
Tampa Bay	82	68	.547	9
Baltimore	80	70	.533	11
New York	79	72	.523	12½
Toronto	69	81	.460	22

##### CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	88	63	.583	—
Cleveland	82	69	.543	6
Kansas City	79	72	.523	9
Minnesota	64	86	.427	23½
Chicago	60	91	.397	28

##### WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	88	62	.587	—
Texas	82	68	.547	6
Los Angeles	73	77	.487	15
Seattle	66	85	.437	22½
Houston	51	100	.338	37½

##### Tuesday's results

Toronto 2 N.Y. Yankees 0  
Baltimore 3 Boston 2  
Chicago White Sox 4 Minnesota 3  
Cincinnati 10 Houston 0  
Cleveland 5 Kansas City 3  
Detroit 6 Seattle 2  
Texas 7 Tampa Bay 1  
L.A. Angels at Oakland  
**Monday's results**  
Chicago White Sox 12 Minnesota 1  
Cincinnati 6 Houston 1  
Detroit 4 Seattle 2  
Kansas City 7 Cleveland 1  
L.A. Angels 12 Oakland 1  
Tampa Bay 6 Texas 2  
**Wednesday's games — All Times Eastern**  
Minnesota (Diamond 5-11) at Chicago  
White Sox (Danks 4-13), 2:10 p.m.  
L.A. Angels (Vargas 8-7) at Oakland (Griffin 14-9), 3:35 p.m.  
N.Y. Yankees (Hughes 4-13) at Toronto (Happ 4-6), 7:07 p.m.  
Seattle (Iwakuma 12-6) at Detroit (Verlander 13-11), 7:08 p.m.  
Texas (Holland 9-9) at Tampa Bay (Archer 9-7), 7:10 p.m.  
Baltimore (Chen 7-7) at Boston (Peavy 11-5), 7:10 p.m.  
Cincinnati (Reynolds 1-2) at Houston (Peacock 5-5), 8:10 p.m.  
Cleveland (Salazar 1-2) at Kansas City (Chen 7-3), 8:10 p.m.

#### NATIONAL LEAGUE

##### EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	89	62	.589	—
Washington	81	70	.536	8
Philadelphia	71	80	.470	18
New York	67	83	.447	21½
Miami	55	96	.364	34

##### CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
St. Louis	88	63	.583	—
Pittsburgh	87	64	.576	1
Cincinnati	86	66	.566	2½
Milwaukee	67	83	.447	20½
Chicago	63	88	.417	25

##### WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	86	64	.573	—
Arizona	76	73	.510	9½
San Diego	70	80	.467	16
San Francisco	70	81	.464	16½
Colorado	69	83	.454	18

##### Tuesday's results

Milwaukee 4 Chicago Cubs 3  
Philadelphia 6 Miami 4  
San Diego 5 Pittsburgh 2  
San Francisco 8 N.Y. Mets 5  
St. Louis 11 Colorado 4  
Washington 6-4 Atlanta 5-0  
L.A. Dodgers at Arizona  
**Monday's results**  
Arizona 2 L.A. Dodgers 1  
Colorado 6 St. Louis 2  
Milwaukee 6 Chicago Cubs 1  
Philadelphia 12 Miami 2  
San Diego 2 Pittsburgh 0  
Atlanta at Washington (ppd., local shooting)  
**Wednesday's games — All Times Eastern**  
San Diego (Ross 3-8) at Pittsburgh (Morton 7-4), 7:05 p.m.  
Miami (Eovaldi 3-6) at Philadelphia (Miner 0-1), 7:05 p.m.  
Atlanta (Wood 3-3) at Washington (Ohlendorf 4-0), 7:05 p.m.  
San Francisco (Cain 8-9) at N.Y. Mets (Harang 0-1), 7:10 p.m.  
Chicago Cubs (Rusin 2-4) at Milwaukee (Thornburg 2-1), 8:10 p.m.  
St. Louis (Wainwright 16-9) at Colorado (Chatwood 7-4), 8:40 p.m.  
L.A. Dodgers (Fife 4-3) at Arizona (McCarthy 4-9), 10:10 p.m.

### CFL

#### EAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	T	PF	PA	Pts
Toronto	11	7	4	0	321	288	14
Hamilton	11	5	6	0	288	303	10
Montreal	11	4	7	0	259	321	8
Winnipeg	11	2	9	0	224	333	4

#### WEST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	T	PF	PA	Pts
Calgary	11	9	2	0	346	268	18
Saskatchewan	11	8	3	0	354	258	16
B.C.	11	7	4	0	301	280	14
Edmonton	11	2	9	0	259	301	4

#### Friday's game — All Times Eastern

Edmonton at Winnipeg, 8 p.m.

#### Saturday's games

Montreal vs. Hamilton (at Moncton), 4 p.m.

Toronto at Calgary, 7:30 p.m.

#### Sunday's game

B.C. at Saskatchewan, 4:30 p.m.

### NFL

#### Monday's result

Cincinnati 20 Pittsburgh 10

#### Sunday's results

Green Bay 38 Washington 20  
Arizona 25 Detroit 21  
Baltimore 14 Cleveland 6  
Denver 41 N.Y. Giants 23  
San Diego 33 Philadelphia 30  
Houston 30 Tennessee 24  
Atlanta 31 St. Louis 24  
New Orleans 16 Tampa Bay 14  
Oakland 19 Jacksonville 9  
Miami 24 Indianapolis 20  
Chicago 31 Minnesota 30  
Seattle 29 San Francisco 3  
Kansas City 17 Dallas 16  
Buffalo 24 Carolina 23  
**Thursday's game — All Times Eastern**  
Kansas City at Philadelphia, 8:25 p.m.

### MLS

#### Friday's game — All Times Eastern

Colorado at Portland, 10 p.m.

#### Saturday's games

Vancouver at Montreal, 2 p.m.  
Kansas City at Toronto, 4 p.m.  
Chicago at Columbus, 7:30 p.m.  
D.C. at New England, 7:30 p.m.  
Chivas at Houston, 8:30 p.m.  
San Jose at Salt Lake, 9 p.m.  
Seattle at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.  
**Sunday, September 22**  
Dallas at New York, 5 p.m.

## GRAPHIC DESIGNER

We're looking for a talented Graphic Designer whose portfolio and experience reflects that of a strong print design background. In this six month contract position, the right candidate will join Metro's dynamic and award winning Creative Services team. The ideal candidate will have a successful track record of delivering a variety of quality creative and deadline driven projects in an extremely fast paced environment. In addition a solid comprehension of print design and production, specifically for print advertising and online design skills using web-based media are a definite asset.

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- Proficient on both Mac and PC platforms
- Ability to prep files for print production, including file stuffing (.sitx, .sit, .sea, .zip) and FTP experience
- Professional, personable, approachable with great communication skills (both verbal and written)
- Ability to thrive under pressure in a fast paced, multi-faceted and deadline driven environment with strong attention to detail (typography, copy, grammar, layout, images, colour, etc)
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Interested individuals who possess the skills described above are requested to submit their resume and cover letter via email to [hr@metronews.ca](mailto:hr@metronews.ca) no later than Sept. 20, 2013. PLEASE QUOTE: "Graphic Designer - Calgary in the subject line. All submissions will be treated as confidential.



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# The 2014 GMC Sierra



ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASEMEDIA.COM

**Review.** From top to bottom it's as new as it gets, right down to three brand new engines

**MALCOLM GUNN**  
wheelbasemedia.com

With nearly endless combinations of powertrains, features and cab choices, you would be hard-pressed to find two identical pickup trucks on the road.

That's certainly the case with General Motors' light-duty cousins — the Chevrolet Silverado and GMC Sierra — although both share the same basic structure and running gear. For 2014, each continues with its own style and attitude, although the "attitude" part is hard to define, exactly.

While Chevrolet positions the Silverado as a kind of middle-ground pickup for both work and play, in the Sierra's case those virtues are distinctly separated. More basic GMC models accentuate the "Professional Grade" tag and the pitch is directed at buyers who rely on their pickups to earn a living. At the opposite end of the scale is the Sierra Denali sub-brand that places a much higher value on coddling content.

In either case, the Sierra's primary identification point can be spotted in your rearview mirror. The entire front end, including grille, headlights, bumper and in-your-face GMC logo, are more massive than before and in total make a bolder statement than the Silverado does. Of course as you scale the trim-level ladder the appoint-

2014 GMC Sierra	
• <b>Type.</b>	Two- /four-door, rear-/four-wheel-drive full-size pickup
• <b>Engines (hp).</b>	4.3-litre OHV V6 (285); 5.3-litre OHV V8 (355); 6.2-litre OHV V8 (420)
• <b>Transmissions.</b>	Six-speed automatic
• <b>Base price (incl. destination)</b>	\$27,800

## GMC vs Chevy

Some minor sheetmetal differences exist between the Chevy and the GMC, but that's about it. Even the interiors of the two pickups share the same basic dash, control panel and available touch-screen communications centre that are a masterstroke of efficient legibility.

## Fuel Economy

Mated to a standard six-speed automatic transmission, fuel consumption is reduced to 11.9 l/100 km in the city and 8.4 on the highway (previously 13.7/9.1). V8 choices consist of a new 5.3-litre unit with 355 horses and 383 pound-feet, up from 315/335, and a 6.2-litre piece rated at

420/450 pound-feet. That compares to the previous 6.2's 403/417 rating. The new engine is based on the V8 in the new 2014 Corvette. The 5.3 is rated at 13.0/8.7 l/100 km, but the 6.2's fuel numbers have yet to be divulged, although GMC says it will have a 5,450-kilogram tow rating.

ments become more luxurious and the cabin resembles something approaching a high-end limo, especially in the four-door crew-cab models. Limousine cabins have also been the focus of GMC's designers. Improvements in aerodynamics, insulation and weather sealing help shut out intrusive noises.

Note that for 2014 the rear doors of the double cab (which has smaller doors than the crew cab) are now front-hinged just like the crew cab's doors, as opposed to being rear hinged, to provide easier access to the back seat. Just as a greater use of aluminum in fabricating various body panels and suspension parts has kept the Sierra's weight in check, the V6 and V8 engines also benefit.

All use aluminum cylinder blocks and incorporate direct injection, whereby fuel is forced into the cylinders under high pressure. That allows the fuel load to be tailored for very specific use. There's also continuously variable valve timing for improved low- and high-speed performance, while half



Soft-touch upholstery is everywhere inside with tons of storage spots

the cylinders in V8 engines will automatically shut down in steady-state cruise conditions to save fuel. The V6 engine also runs on four cylinders in such situations.

What that all means is a standard 4.3-litre V6 — for all cab styles and in rear- and four-wheel-drive — that might have the same displacement as before, but now makes 285 horsepower and 305 pound-feet of torque. The old iron 4.3 was good for just 195/260 pound-feet. Now, that's good progress.

The 6.2 is standard in the

Sierra Denali, which has as a rather substantial list of content. Unique 20-inch chrome wheels adorn the exterior, while wood and leather (including heated and cooled front seats) coat interior surfaces.

The Sierra starts at \$25,100 for a basic V6 work truck, but heading into Denali territory and you could easily double that amount. Either way, with variety like this it's even more doubtful that you'll find two identical Sierras anywhere.

## Compare



**1** Ford F-150  
Base price: \$21,800



**2** Ram 1500  
Base price: \$26,500



**3** Toyota Tundra  
Base price: \$27,800

5 DRIVE



# The Volt's colourful getaway

**Autoknow.** It might be electric but it's a real car on real roads

GARRY  
SOWERBY  
wheellbasemedia.com

There's an interesting irony when it comes to things that are "high tech." It's that they're only high tech for a brief time. Soon, they become run-of-the mill, or are surpassed as the competition attempts the dreaded "leap frog" that turns the latest and greatest into yesterday's news.

In this respect, Chevrolet's biggest gamble wasn't building the Volt electric car, it was the potential of being dramatically upstaged. Since the Volt came to market for the 2011 model year, that hasn't happened, but there are all sorts of plug-in hybrids coming on stream that mesh varying forms of gas and electric power in an attempt to nab buyers who have either become entirely fed up with gas prices, or those who want to make a smaller dent in the environment when it comes to

emissions.

A recent \$5,100 price cut in Canada to about \$38,500 (including destination charges) reflects the competitive nature of this segment and recognizes that efficient non-electric vehicles are entering the market for substantially less money. With some provincial tax credits knocking as much as \$8,000 more off the price, the Volt is more tempting. But how does it work? And how does it work in real driving situations?

To find out, I treated my wife, Lisa Calvi, to an early-fall road trip in New England, where back roads and small towns are alive with crisp mornings and the onset of splendid fall foliage.

The meandering route would run about 720 kilometres from Burlington, Vt., to Bar Harbor, Me. There were a few kilometres of Interstate, but the Volt would spend most of its time on secondary roads.

The basis of the car's mobility is a 149-horse electric motor. The large T-shaped battery below the floor provides enough juice to get the stylish four-passenger sedan about 40



The Volt is the only electric on the market in its price range that will cover 720 kilometres in two days. And there's no "range anxiety." Just gas up if you can't find a wall plug.

real-world kilometres, maximum, at which point an on-board 1.4-litre gasoline engine fires up to generate the electricity to extend the range another 400 kilometres or so. Now, I don't really know about the term "range extending" since most vehicles can outdo this Chevy for overall distance on a

tank of gas, but in the context of other electric cars on the market with limited range, such as the Nissan Leaf, I guess the term "range extending" will do.

Although the gas engine adds significant weight and cost to the car, this is somewhat offset by the elimination of that nasty side effect typical of electric vehicles: range anxiety. No pesky feelings in the pit of your stomach that you are running out of propulsion and the only way to get it back is to find a place to plug in and wait hours until the battery is recharged.

Fact is the Volt's main competitor, the Leaf, would never be able to take a 720-kilometre two-day road trip because it would require about three full days of charging using a household wall plug to cover the distance. It's more of a city car.

Lisa and I fly into Burlington, Vt., and pick up the Crystal Red Volt. It's fully charged and we drive to Topnotch Resort in Stowe, Vt., on electric power. It's peppy, quiet, comfortable and handles surprisingly well on the back roads.

That night, after plugging into a 110-volt outlet in the parking lot, we discuss our options over dinner. We have never driven to the top of New Hampshire's Mount Washington, although I've seen those "This car climbed Mount Washington" bumper stickers for decades. It's the highest peak in the U.S. northeast at about 2,000 metres in elevation.

The next morning we pass on the many activities available at the cozy Topnotch Resort. So much for the horseback riding, hikes, the corn maze or getting pampered at the resort's full service spa.

We're off, and half way to our overnight destination I realize the Volt's gas-powered generator has taken over and I didn't even notice. Turn down



Lisa frighteningly demonstrates her skill with the axe in Whitefield.

the prerequisite road-trip companion XM Radio and I can hear — and feel — the engine buzz up at times. It revs according to power demand, sometimes fast and sometimes slowly.

We eventually make our way to Whitefield to check into the Mountain View Grand Resort and Spa, just northwest of Mount Washington. This spectacularly massive hotel built in 1865 is just the kind of place to check into on a road trip. Powered by wind, the grand hotel was revived a dozen years ago after sitting vacant for 16 years. And there's an axe-throwing field in the front yard, which we try out. Lisa appears to have an untapped talent, so I'm on my guard the rest of the night.

The next day, we need to drive about 400 kilometres to get to Bar Harbor on the Atlantic Ocean. Who cares if we can only get half way up Mount Washington because of freezing rain and icy roads. Despite all the kilometres I've driven in my life setting around-the-

## Versus the Leaf

"Fact is the Volt's main competitor, the Leaf, would never be able to take a 720-kilometre two-day road trip because it would require about three full days of charging using a household wall plug to cover the distance. It's more of a city car."

world records, the Volt has taught this old road warrior a few new tricks.

Chevy's answer to the Little Black Dress of vehicles, the Volt, makes it possible to be environmentally conscious, cut down on fossil-fuel consumption and not need a second car for extended range when the call of the open road needs answering. It really is a real car.

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# Oh those eccentric British types ...

**Autopilot.** British Car Day attracted some interesting characters and cars, but none more so than Canada's own half-woman, half-car Venessa Koch



**AUTO PILOT**  
Mike Goetz  
drive@metronews.ca

This past Sunday marked the 30th anniversary of British Car Day. Held every third Sunday in September at Ontario's Bronte Creek Provincial Park, British Car Day has been for some time now the largest single day gathering of British vehicular diversity in North America — about 1,000 vehicles and their servants manage to make the scene every year.

In other words, it's the dog's bollocks, brilliant, jolly good, etc., and I was chuffed to bits to make it out again, though a last minute family matter almost threw a spanner into the works. Okay



Venessa Koch crouched in DeLorean mode. ALL IMAGES CONTRIBUTED

that's bloody it for the British slang; now on to a couple of the cool vehicles that caught my eye this year...

Venessa Koch is not technically a car, British or otherwise, but she probably had her picture taken more than anything else on the field this year. She is not technically a Transformer either, but she sure looked like one. For her culminating thesis for her Theatre Production degree from Ryerson University she created a

costume that starts out as a DeLorean automobile and ends up like a robot. It is awesome. The school gave her an A-plus, and the Ontario DeLorean Owners' Club awarded her Associate Member status. "I'm also their official mascot," said Koch, who was parked alongside other DeLoreans in the DeLorean row, and performed many "transformations" during the day. Like a lot of DeLorean enthusiasts, she got the bug from the time-traveling DeLorean in

the film, Back to the Future. "I've been in love with that car since I was 10." It took her about eight months to make the DeLorean transformer costume. It wasn't easy. She noted that unlike Optimus Prime, she actually has a spine that can't be folded several times.

The DeLorean contingent seemed to be having the most fun. They seemed younger than the Jag and Rolls crowds, for example, and their cars were the



Before the DeLorean fan and mascot springs into robot mode.

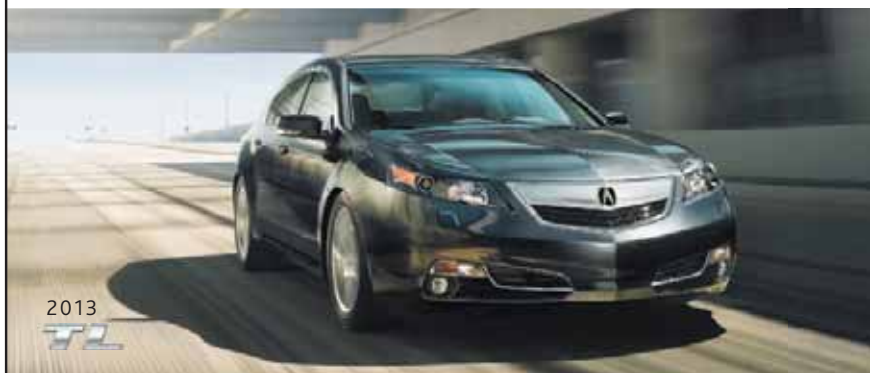
only ones there with faux Flux Capacitors. DeLoreans were made for only two years (1981 and 1982), in a plant located in Belfast, Northern Ireland.

Only slightly larger than Venessa Koch was the Berkley SE328, owned by William Patterson of East Aurora, New York. At just a smidgen over three metres long, the front-drive Berkeley is the world's smallest production sports car. Patterson's SE328 model is fitted with a 328-cc two-stroke

motorcycle engine, good for 18 horsepower. Patterson is over six feet tall, and when I asked him to get behind the wheel for a photo, he said sure, and then took about a minute to complete the manoeuvre. "You don't jump in and out of this thing on whim," said Patterson, "it's a commitment." A commitment to having a bit of fun, I thought later, when he took off for the day, in a cloud of two-stroke smoke and a cacophony of mechanical noises.

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AMVIC LICENSEES



# How does BMW hybrid's tiny engine hit 250km/h?

**Driving force.** German automaker's latest creation sets the bar for weight and fuel consumption and is a true vision of the future

JIL  
MCINTOSH  
drive@metronews.ca

Automakers have consistently worked to get more power out of smaller engines, but an upcoming BMW model may take the crown. The i8, a sports model planned for sale in Canada next year, accelerates to 100 km/h in 4.5 seconds and can reach 250

## Everyone doing their part

**"There will be a clear need for every powertrain in the future to reduce fuel consumption at its maximum."**

Dr. Carsten Breitfeld, vice-president of BMW and director of the i8 program

km/h—and it's a hybrid with only a three-cylinder engine.

I had an exclusive opportunity to drive a heavily-disguised model at the company's test track in France, where the i8 proved it can run on electricity alone in the city, or hold its own at high speeds with some of the best of today's conventional competitors.

"We need the ability for emission-free driving," says Dr. Carsten Breitfeld, vice-president of BMW and director of the i8 program. "There will be a clear need for every powertrain in the future to reduce fuel consumption at its maximum."

The i8 combines a variety of technologies. Its front wheels are powered by an electric motor, mated to a two-speed transmission that the car uses when running on battery only. After it's recharged by plugging into a wall, the i8 can run almost silently for 35 km on electricity. That's primarily for city use, but it can reach 120 km/h on the battery alone.

The rear wheels are powered by a turbocharged 1.5-litre



Me behind the wheel of the disguised new BMW i8, it also has scissor-like doors. PHOTO COURTESY OF BMW

## Very pricey

• **Forecast.** BMW estimates that the i8 will get 2.9 L/100 km in combined hybrid driving, and use less than 10 L/100 km in racetrack-style

driving.

• **Cost.** Estimates for the i8's Canadian pricing range from \$160,000 to \$180,000.

• **Sequel.** The i8 is the second car in BMW's "innovation" series, following the all-electric i3 city hatchback.

three-cylinder engine, with a six-speed automatic transmission. During regular and performance driving, the i8 uses a combination of electricity and gasoline, using regenerative braking to recharge the battery while driving. The gas and electric systems, working together, produce 362 horsepower and 420 lb-ft of torque, comparable to what some eight-cylinder engines make.

Since both axes have their own power source, the i8 is all-wheel drive, which improves its handling. Electric motors make their power right away, while gasoline engines have to rev up. BMW solves this disparity with a small, high-voltage electric motor at the rear, which can provide additional power to the rear axle on acceleration.

To offset the heavy power-

train and battery, the i8 is made exclusively of lightweight materials, including an aluminum chassis, carbon fibre body, and plastic panels. The entire car weighs about 1,490 kg.

"What we put into the electric motor, we cut out of the (gasoline) engine," Breitfeld says. "The smaller engine gives smaller fuel consumption, while the electric motor makes it dynamic."

## \*\*\*\*\* the CURRENT EVENT

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MSRP, INCLUDES FREIGHT & PDI

**— \$5,000**

CASH PURCHASE SAVINGS

**= \$37,585**



MODEL SHOWN: RIDGELINE TOURING

**2013 Ridgeline VP**

**\$38,585<sup>†</sup>**

MSRP, INCLUDES FREIGHT & PDI

**— \$5,000**

CASH PURCHASE SAVINGS

**= \$33,585**



MODEL SHOWN: CR-V TOURING

**2013 CR-V LX AWD**

**\$29,780<sup>†</sup>**

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†MSRP is \$42,585.00/\$38,585.00/\$29,780.00 for a 2013 Pilot EX 4WD, model YF4H4DE/2013 Ridgeline VP, model YK1F4DEZ/2013 CR-V LX AWD, model RM4H3DES and includes \$1,640.00/\$1,640.00/\$1,640.00 freight and PDI. Taxes, license, insurance, environmental fees and registration are extra. Retailer may sell for less. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. \*Cash purchase savings of up to \$5,000 on select new and unregistered 2013 models. ‡\* Offers valid from September 1, 2013 through September 30, 2013 at participating Honda retailers. Offers valid only for Alberta residents at Honda Dealers of Alberta locations. Offers subject to change or cancellation without notice. Visit HondaAlberta.ca or see your Honda retailer for full details.



## Horoscopes

### Aries

March 21 - April 20

You don't have to batter your rivals into submission. The planets warn if you come on too strong they could hold a grudge that one day comes back at you. What goes around comes around.

### Taurus

April 21 - May 21

If a friend wants you to make a commitment today, don't refuse out of hand. With Venus, your ruler, linked to Saturn, it is in fact a good time to dedicate yourself to a cause.

### Gemini

May 22 - June 21

It may feel as if your hopes and wishes have been thrown into reverse but that is not the case: You are still on track to realize your dream. Focus on something mundane today — you will find that it helps.

### Cancer

June 22 - July 23

You may have to play along with someone and make them believe that you are still on their side but tomorrow's full moon will make clear your deception. A partnership will certainly be put to the test.

### Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

Try not to say anything that causes resentment. Loved ones are liable to be touchy over the next 24 hours, so weigh your words carefully and, if in doubt, try saying nothing at all.

### Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

Be the one who speaks up when others are too scared to make their thoughts known. Don't worry that you might provoke a negative response — it's better than no response.

### Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

It is pointless arguing with people whose way of looking at life is different to your own. Accept that you'll never see eye-to-eye and find friends you find it easier to converse with.

### Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

Venus linked to Saturn in your sign today should remind you that you are rich in the things that matter. Most important among them are relationships and the values you share with those you love.

### Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

If you withhold information from others, you better have a good reason. The planets warn they won't be happy at being kept in the dark. You may have the right to silence but you don't have to use it.

### Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

If you are upset about a partnership matter, speak up. The longer you suffer in silence, the harder it will become to tell them what is wrong. Don't worry, they'll understand.

### Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

If you believe in what you are doing then it is as good as done. However, if there are doubts in your mind, your progress will falter, so make sure your mind is clear.

### Pisces

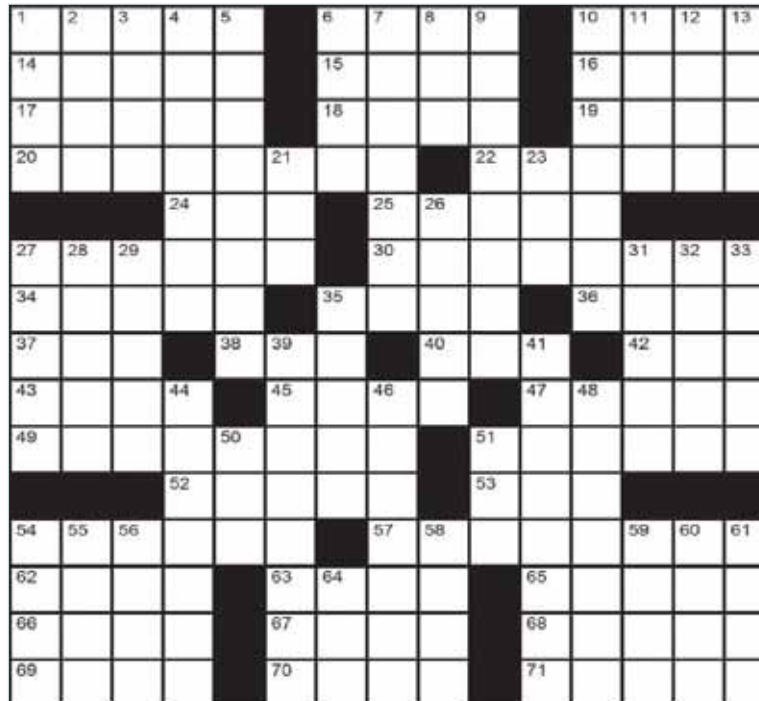
Feb. 20 - March 20

You may have to postpone something you were looking forward to today but don't get angry about it. A few days from now you will come back to it refreshed and determined to succeed. **SALLY BROMPTON**

## Crossword: Canada Across and Down

### Across

1. "General Hospital", and others
6. Rugged cliff
10. 'B' of BFF
14. Ms. Sevigny
15. Swanky transport
16. Ornamental purse
17. World org. based in NYC: 2 wds.
18. Worldwide, wee-ly
19. Land measure
20. British Columbia's capital
22. Be uncertain
24. U2's li'l land
25. Ms. Flynn Boyle's
27. Medical building
30. Montreal street; or, surname of Canadian actor
34. Conrad Bain's role on "Diff'rent Strokes"
34. Thesaurus compiler, Peter Mark \_\_\_\_ (b.1779 - d.1869)
35. Not-against votes
36. Quito is its cap.
37. WWII operation, \_\_\_\_ Jima
38. Friend ...en francais
40. Sneeze starters...
42. Skirt part
43. Prefix to 'morphosis'
45. "\_\_\_\_ Rider" (1969)
47. Sculpt wood
49. "Income \_\_\_\_" (Canadian series about creating a home rental unit)
51. Menu option



under 'File': 2 wds.

52. Katy Perry's forthcoming album
53. Alien's craft, commonly
54. Tale of myth
57. Winnipeg-born anchor on CNN, Ashleigh \_\_\_\_
62. Gumbo ingredient
63. It's pumped at

gyms

65. More curious
66. Dish
67. Old, to Robert Burns
68. Resulted in: 2 wds.
69. Increases
70. "The Untouchables" role, Eliot \_\_\_\_
71. Sag

### Down

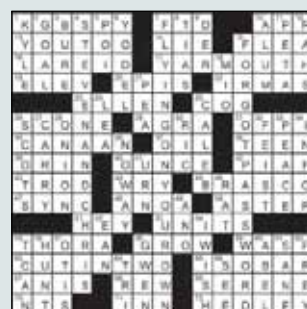
1. Canuck comedy sketch show
2. "\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_" (I-didn't-know-you-were-here type of greeting)
3. Sir Guinness
4. Quebec dish
5. Spanish 'Miss'
6. Nero's 152
7. CTV News anchor,

Sandie \_\_\_\_

8. Li'l quantity
9. Yukon event, Klondike \_\_\_\_: 2 wds.
10. "Duh...": 2 wds.
11. Carve into stone
12. "You betcha!"
13. Level
21. Tape a li'l TV show
23. will, \_\_\_\_
26. Wide assortment

27. Make hair wavy
28. Decrease
29. "\_\_\_\_ Ex-tremes" by Billy Joel
31. Earthy pigment
32. \_\_\_\_ York (New York, in Spanish)
33. Equivalent titles to 'Sirs' for women
35. Cars of Italy
39. Tragically Hip's "At the Hundredth \_\_\_\_"
41. Michelangelo's support in the Sistine Chapel
44. Lost court case recourses
46. Icons
48. One who shuns
50. 'North' suffix
51. Yellow thing in the sky
54. Toronto's Casa
55. Just managed, with Out
56. Diploma-getter, briefly
58. These things: & & &
59. Vegetable stand selection
60. Actor/singer Jared
61. Lose one's grip
64. Actress, Sara \_\_\_\_

## Yesterday's Crossword



## Sudoku

### How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

## Yesterday's Sudoku



## Weather

TODAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY



MAX: 11°  
MIN: 8°



MAX: 19°  
MIN: 5°



MAX: 21°  
MIN: 7°

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